

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

SUBJECT Conditions in the Moravska Ostrava Coal Mining Region:
Dulka Pit/Female Apprentices/Impact of Currency Reform

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

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Dulka Pit, Dolni Sucha

2. "About 2,300 miners work in the Dulka pit at Doln' ucha. They work three shifts a day. This number includes 400 civilian miners and 400 unskilled brigade workers. The remainder are soldiers of the PTP military labor units. The director is Karel Kudrna, a former miner who lacks the education and skill for his technical post. Four mining engineers are attached to the pit. [redacted]: Eng (fnu) Perecka. The 'politically unreliable' soldiers of the PT units are supervised during work by the shiftmaster (fnu) Kana. [redacted] following foremen:

Revier 635 - 3 2 -- Foreman (fnu) Oeko
Revier 11 - 22 -- Foreman (fnu) Navik
Revier 635 - V 1 -- Foreman (fnu) Klimsa

The president of the miners' council is (fnu) Kubicjek, who leads the CP unit in the Kukla Gedivoda pit. The workers' militia consists of 12 persons armed with army rifles. The personnel chief (kadrovy referent) is a Pole, (fnu) Pukala.

3. "The pit seems to have no modern equipment. Most of the equipment was brought in during the Nazi occupation. The machinery marked 'Stalin' from the U.S.S.R. is made of bad material which often breaks. Spare parts are not available. For blasting the miners use a new explosive marked Barlox. This is produced at the 'Synthesis' factory at Lenin from 'compressed air'.

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4. "The miners at the Dulka pit are an undisciplined group. They use every chance to slacken off and often sleep during the night shift. They do their grumbling underground, however, not on the surface.
5. "A workers' camp near the pit is directed by (fnu) Tichy, a Communist, with (fnu) Dolecek as security officer.

Female Miners

6. "About 500 young women are working as mining apprentices in various coal pits in the Moravska Ostrava region. They live in the Internat Stalingrad.

Reaction to Stalin's Death

7. " [redacted] small reaction in the area to the deaths of Stalin and Gottwald. Gottwald's name was not mentioned during the May Day parade at the Dukla Pit.

Impact of the Currency Reform

8. "Prior to the currency reform / 30 May 53 / [redacted] net wage of about 7500 Kc per month. For food and lodging [redacted] 950 Kc per month. Immediately after the currency reform [redacted] 260 Kc for half a month, paying five Kc per day for food and lodging. Actually on 1 June 53 [redacted] 1800 Kc in the old currency and 120 Kc 'on the hand'. Some prices after the reform:

10 cigarettes marked Partyzan	-	1.80	Kc
1 kg butter	-	36	Kc
1 kg smoked sausage	-	40	Kc
1 kg sugar	-	14	Kc

9. "Between the first and third of June 1953 there were strikes in the Zapotocky and Zofinka pits in the Moravska Ostrava coal mining region. The SNB killed two workers during the riots at the Zapotocky pit. The Communists then sent in military units in field uniforms with heavy machine guns. They occupied the Zapotocky pit and vicinity and put up posters which stated that the area was closed to civilians because of 'military exercises'.

10. [redacted] the Drevindustria factories near Liptovsky Svaty Martin and other factories at Tuzec and Liptovsky Svaty Martin in northern Slovakia endured strikes after the currency reform."

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